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## PATENT ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 06017550

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PCT U.S. National Phase Patent Application of:	) Group Art Unit: Unknown
Hans-Guenter Benner et al.	) Examiner: Unknown
Serial No.: Unknown	CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" "EXPRESS MAIL" mailing label No. EV 548311986 US Date of Deposit: February 8, 2006
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## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(B)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Enclosed are copies of 6 United States patents, 1 Japanese Patent Abstract and 1 German patent, with English translation. Also enclosed is a copy of the Search Report of the European Patent Application dated December 19, 2005, and a copy of the Examination Report of the German Patent and Trademark Office dated June 16, 2005.

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Applicants respectfully request that the Examine 2006 evidence that consideration of relevant portions thereof by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed references are material or constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that the listed references do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed references, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this statement, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 13-0019.

Respectfully submitted,

y: Pichod

Richard A. Speer

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Dated: February 8, 2006

Form PTO-1449  INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION			Docket Number (Optional)  06017550		Application Number			
				Applicant Hans-	·Guenter l	Benner et al.	•	
				Filing Date Group Art Unit				
			February 8, 2006		2856			
		U.S.	PATENT	DOCUMENTS				
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE		NAME	CLAS	S SUBCLASS	FILING IF APPRO	
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EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED				
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